

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-21 and 23-26 remain in the application. Claims 1-3, 5-21 and 23-26 are subject to examination. Claims 1, 3 and 5 have been amended. Claims 4 and 22 have been canceled.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections ~ 35 USC § 102" on pages 2-3 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1-3 and 19 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,922,794 to Tagawa et al. (hereinafter Tagawa) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is appreciatively noted on page 4 of the Office Action that claims 4-18 would be allowable if put in independent form including all of the limitations of any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended with the features of allowable claim 4 and therefore the rejection is now believed to be mute.

The remaining claims have been amended to be compatible with newly amended claim 1 or cleaned up to address informalities.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claim 1. Claim 1 is,

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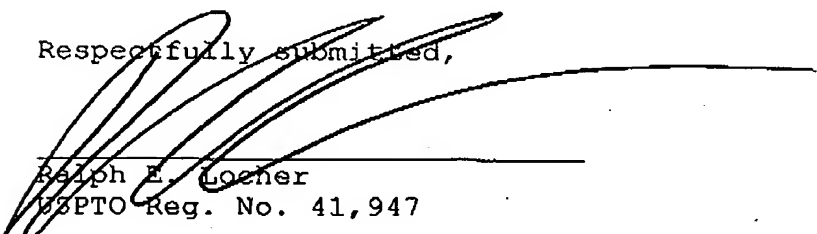
therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-21 and 23-26 are solicited.

If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee associated therewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP, No. 12-1099..

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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